

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 02101 261006Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 PPT-01 SCA-01 /072 W

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R 261025Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1658

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJ: CSCE: TRAVEL CONDITIONS FOR CORRESPONDENTS

REF: MOSCOW 3981

1. NEW SOVIET PRACTICE ON EXIT VISAS FOR JOURNALISTS (REFTEL) HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE CORRIDOR TALK SINCE IT WAS MENTIONED IN LE MONDE EARLY THIS WEEK, AND FOLLOWING RECEIPT BY SOME WESTERN DELEGATIONS OF REPORTS FROM EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW. AS A RESULT, IT CAME UP IN REGULAR NATO CAUCUS DISCUSSION OF BASKET III TEXT ON WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS. CAUCUS GENERALLY THOUGHT SOVIET MOVE WAS DESIGNED TO MAKE MOSCOW-BASED JOURNALISTS APPRECIATE ANY IMPROVEMENTS IN THEIR SITUATION WHICH MAY RESULT FROM CSCE. WE USED IT TO ILLUSTRATE WHY WE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT TO OBTAIN MEANINGFUL TEXT ON JOURNALISTS.

2. WE ALSO MENTIONED NEW SOVIET VISA PRACTICE AT PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED PRIVATE LUNCH WITH SECRETARY GENERAL OF SOVIET DEL (PETROVSKY). WE POINTED OUT THAT THIS INCIDENT COULD ONLY SHARPEN INTEREST OF WESTERN JOURNALISTS IN RELATED CSCE TEXT, AND MAKE IT MORE NECESSARY FOR US TO PRESS FOR A MEANINGFUL DOCUMENT ON JOURNALISTS. WE SAID WE DID NOT SEE HOW THIS WOULD BENEFIT US OR THE SOVIETS. PETROVSKY
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 02101 261006Z

(PROTEXT) SAID HE WAS NOT "OFFICIALLY INFORMED" OF NEW

SOVIET MEASURE, BUT ASSUMED IT WAS AIMED AT HEIGHTENING
WESTERN APPRECIATION FOR SOVIET CONCESSIONS ON JOURNALISTS
IN CSCE.
DALE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JOURNALISTS, VISAS, TRAVEL CONTROLS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA02101
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750106-0368
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750315/aaaaamud.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 3981
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE: TRAVEL CONDITIONS FOR CORRESPONDENTS
TAGS: PFOR, XG, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006